

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS

To the Inhabitants of

WHATELY,

1882-83.

GREENFIELD:
W. S. CARSON, PRINTER.
1883.

WHATELY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.
WHATELY, MASS. 01093

B-1999-005

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS

To the Inhabitants of

WHATELY,

1882-83.



GREENFIELD:
W. S. CARSON, PRINTER.
1883.

REPORT.

WM. BARNARD, Treasurer, in account with the TOWN OF WHATELY:

Dr.

To cash Wm. Barnard, treasurer, 1881,	\$598 61
Dog fund of 1881,	37 95
Greenfield savings bank, borrowed money,	1000 00
E. F. Orcutt, license,	100 00
Conn. R. R. R., land damage by fire,	200 00
G. W. Moore, use of derrick,	39 00
Corporation tax,	34 57
National bank tax,	867 64
State aid,	174 00
Relief of indigent soldiers and sailors,	167 25
School fund,	220 35
J. A. Elder, rent of town hall,	8 00
Dog fund of 1882,	30 85
History of Whately,	32 00
E. C. Potter, school books,	1 33
Lorenzo Woolcutt, school books,	1 14
Overdrawn orders,	5 00
Wm. Barnard, collector,	9124 22

\$12641 91

Cr.

By amount of orders paid,	\$12099 07
Cash in treasury,	542 84

\$12641 91

WM. BARNARD, Collector, in account with Town
of WHATELY:

	Dr.		
To town grant,		\$7110	00
State tax,		880	00
County tax,		1222	23
Overlayings,		98	18
			\$9310 41
	Cr.		
By cash collected,		\$9124	22
Discount,		155	94
Abatements,		10	25
Uncollected,		20	00
			\$9310 41

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Town of Sunderland, repairs on Sunderland bridge,	\$43	03
W. S. Carson, printing 200 town reports,	21	60
Bond Bros. & Bottum, legal services, suit Whately vs. S. W. Allis,	15	00
Henry G. Nims, sheriff's services suit Whately vs. S. W. Allis,	3	82
Wm. Barnard, cash paid for advice suit Whately vs. S. W. Allis,	3	00
Wm. Barnard, collecting tax on town lands,	9	92
John White & Son, damage to plow.	1	00
W. W. Bardwell, damage to wagon under railroad bridge near E. G. Crafts,	65	
E. M. Frary, supporting watering trough,	4	00
E. A. Jenney, supporting watering trough,	3	00
C. A. Covil, supporting watering trough,	3	00
Elon Sanderson, supporting watering trough two years,	2	50
G. W. Moore, erecting watering trough,	3	00

E. G. Crafts, services as elector 1881-82,	10 00
J. M. Crafts, services as probation officer,	6 00
Jas. D. Gill, two town record books,	5 50
Atwood & Noyes, one town record book, stationery and printing,	12 25
Field & Hall, posters for reward for arrest of incendiaries,	2 00
E. A. Hall, advertising for reward of arrest of incendiaries,	1 50
The Republican Co., advertising for reward for arrest of incendiaries,	1 25
Geo. D. Bartlett, collector's book, postage and stationery,	3 12
C. G. Crafts, postage and express,	1 67
Samuel Lesure, postage and express,	87
J. D. Seymour, postage and express,	6 19
J. D. Seymour, recording births, marriages and deaths,	15 05
L. F. Crafts, reporting deaths,	4 00
L. F. Crafts, repairs and painting on town hall,	128 23
D. Graves & Co., repairs on blinds and windows,	7 50
Wm. Barnard, trimmings and lock,	2 88
C. G. Crafts, locks,	2 35
E. P. Hall & Co., lumber,	2 71
L. S. Crafts, planing lumber,	35
Sylvester Graves, drawing lumber,	1 75
John Maxwell, lumber,	1 26
Mrs. G. W. Bennett, cleaning rooms town hall,	5 50
E. A. Warner, wood, town hall,	13 50
John Maxwell, wood, town hall,	5 00
John Maxwell, plank for cemetery,	40
Wm. Barnard, cash paid for plastering and labor, High School rooms,	9 95

Wm. Dearden, paper hanging, High School rooms,	4 00
C. G. & F. A. Crafts, lime and hair, High School rooms,	2 75
L. G. Stearns, drawing sand, High School rooms,	2 50
A. L. Adkins, repairs on door, High School rooms,	1 00
G. W. Bennett, sawing wood for town hall,	1 75
W. S. Clark, stove and pipe, and expenses for Library room,	29 41
J. H. Searl, table for Library room,	9 00
Wheeler Reflector Co., lamp for Library room,	4 10
Margaret Calahan, cleaning Library room,	1 00
M. Howes, Mdse., for town hall,	2 98
S. S. Graves, labor on rooms in town hall,	10 13
M. Howes, Mdse., oil, shovel, nails, paper &c.,	3 63
M. Howes, 1-2 cord wood, stationery, glass, nails, oil, chimneys,	16 05
M. Howes, Mdse., for schools,	4 10
M. Howes, ringing bell,	10 00
C. M. Elder, repairs N C District,	12 00
L. S. Wilcox, repairs N C Dist,	2 00
S. S. Graves, repairs N C Dist,	75
M. E Harwood, curtain Fix., paper, cleaning, broom &c., N C Dist,	11 00
J. D. Seymour, repairs on stove door N C Dist,	1 30
J. S. Seymour, reader N C Dist,	25
J. D. Seymour, reader and repairs on window S C Dist,	2 85
Reuben Crafts, repairs S C Dist,	2 75
L. F. Crafts, repairs S C Dist,	75
H. K. White, repairs, grading, grass seed, S C Dist,	4 50

M. E Harwood, cleaning S C Dist,	1 00
Mrs. Wm. Graves, cleaning N W Dist,	1 00
E. E. Sanderson repairs N W Dist,	5 54
C. M. Elder, repairs S W Dist,	6 00
Wm. Dearden, paper hanging, S W Dist,	4 08
Mrs. C. A. Graves, cleaning, making curtains, S W Dist,	2 50
J. D. Seymour, cleaning, glass, furniture S W Dist,	6 20
L. F. Crafts, setting glass N W and S W Dist,	1 00
S. C. Wood, cleaning, crayons, S E Dist,	2 10
E. H. " broom, S E Dist,	30
" " " " N E "	30
S. C. " cleaning, crayons N E Dist,	1 60
E. P. Hall & Co., lumber for addition N E Dist,	32 87
Elon Sanderson, lumber for addition, N E Dist,	7 63
L. F. Crafts, painting, addition N E Dist,	12 87
Washburn & Banks, hardware addition N E Dist,	1 45
John Tyler, doors addition N E Dist,	3 30
E. E. Wood, nails " " "	1 79
A. G. Miner, windows for addition N E Dist,	2 70
L. S. Wilcox, labor " " " "	17 25
A. L. Adkins, repairs on stove N W Dist,	25
" " " " scraper &c.,	1 39
L. F. Crafts, painting derrick,	3 00
C. G. Crafts' Agt., freight bills,	17 84
C. R. Crafts, 80 ft. railing and posts, spike, labor,	2 50
M. J. Powers, marl for hardening roads,	3 00
L. S. Wilcox clay " " "	3 00
Chas. Hager, Gravel " " "	1 32
Miron Brown, " " " " and for relinquishing right in two dry bridges,	25 00

W. B. Orcutt, repairs on scraper, wrench, and for sharpening drills,	4 55
E. A. Warner, cash for repairing shovel and sharpening drills,	2 75
J. D. Seymour, going to So. Deerfield with transcript of votes for representative, Nov. 8 and 10,	5 00
Wm. Barnard, cash paid for team to go for medical examiner, case of Mary Dunn,	2 00
Wm. Barnard, Coll. error in total amount of taxes committed for collection,	5 00
Thos. S. Crafts, abatement of of tax,	1 25
Frank B. Smith, " "	2 00
Fred Gough. " "	2 00
S. C. Wood, supplies for schools,	2 15
" school books for E. C. Potter's children,	1 33
J. D. Seymour, school books for L. Woolcutt	60
" erasers,	62
" cash paid Knight Adams & Co., for school books,	4 57
J. D. Seymour, cash paid Ginn, Heath & Co., for school books,	2 22
J. D. Seymour, cash paid for "Treasury of Gen Knowlege,"	6 90
Bridgemam & Childs, school books,	10 27
F. D. Boyden, broom, dust-pan, shovel for schools,	85
J. A. Elder, care of town hall,	10 00
Margaret Calahan, cleaning town hall,	1 00
Geo. E. Coates, stove and pipe, S. E. District,	15 00
Wm. Barnard, services as agent in suit What-e ly vs. S. W. Allis,	4 00
C. G. Crafts, services as agent in suit Whate- ly vs. S. W. Allis,	1 00
\$758 69	

FOR SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

ASSESSORS.

Paul W. Field,	\$40 00
Geo. D. Bartlett,	34 38
John Donovan,	35 00

 \$109 38

SELECTMEN.

C. G. Crafts,	\$55 00
E. A. Warner,	35 50
Wm. Barnard,	45 00

 \$135 50

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

S. C. Wood.	\$25 00
J. D. Seymour,	20 00
Mary E. Harwood,	20 00

 \$65 00

Wm. Barnard, collector and treasurer,	\$135 00
Mrs. C. R. Chaffee, librarian,	\$26 00

OLD BILLS.

Martha Gardner, bal. for teaching winter term 1882,	\$6 50
A. S. Belden, highway labor,	75
John Calahan, " "	75
F. G. Bardwell, breaking roads,	7 50
J. W. Dickinson, " "	6 30
Elon Sanderson, " "	1 00
" railing for Roaring brook bridge,	50
C. G. Crafts, drafting plan of lands of N. H. & N. R. R. Co., for assessors use,	3 00
C. P. Aldrich, Mdse., Mrs McHenry in last sickness,	3 00
Wm. A. Brown, 2 sticks timber for temporary bridge at Sumner Smith's,	6 00
Sumner Smith, pick ax, lighting bridge and damage to building,	3 00

O. E. Morton, labor on bridge at E. Belden's mill,	5 00
S. B. Crafts, stone for Great Swamp bridge,	5 00
R. D. Wait, " bridges,	10 00
" plank for stone boat,	1 25
Geo. W. Moore, cash paid for use of drills,	3 00
J. D. Seymour, medical attendance on paupers from Nov. 11, 1881, to Jan. 28, 1882,	25 00

\$87 55

FOR SUPPORT OF POOR.

Dorus Belden,	\$116 11
Joseph Belden,	194 86
Preston Belden,	123 89
Ernest L. Belden,	22 50
Family of Thomas Belden,	47 17
Wm. Bardwell,	218 98
Benjamin Loveredge,	136 31
Albert W. Judd,	179 43
Pamelia Wells,	56 35
Tramps,	4 50
Medical attendance on paupers by Dr. J. D. Seymour,	75 00

\$1175 10

MILITARY AID.

Under chapter 252 acts of 1879.

Moses W. Jewett, \$230 50

One-half of this sum to be returned by the state.

Under Chapter 301, Acts of 1879.

Mary A. Lyman,	\$48 00
Edward E. Sanderson,	54 00
Ernest A. Allis,	36 00
Stephen G. Stearns,	36 00
Wm. McCoy,	36 00

\$210 00

Whole amount to be returned by the state.

II

HIGHWAYS.

David Ashcraft, Surveyor N E District,	\$76 21
H. S. Higgins, " "	39 56
Elisha Belden, " S E "	68 90
Chas. F. Pease, " "	48 33
J. W. Dickinson, " N C "	114 07
George " " "	114 15
Thos. Flemming, " S C "	56 66
Edmond Donovan, " " "	152 76
Chas. E. Bardwell, " S W "	102 75
Geo. W. Moore, " " "	115 88
Hiram Bardwell, " N W "	102 25
R. D. Waite, " "	131 01

\$1122 53

FOR SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

North Center,	\$210 76
South " "	221 35
North East,	202 25
South " "	204 28
North West,	197 90
South " "	202 75
High school,	153 00
Town of Hatfield,	10 00
Town of Deerfield,	35 00

\$1437 29

BRIDGES.

Chas J. Smith, labor,	\$56 62
L. G. Stearns, labor,	62 13
F. W. Stearns, labor,	27 94
Wm. D. Powers, labor,	21 00
David Calahan, labor,	9 75
Edward E. Sanderson, labor,	94 75
Charles S. Sanderson, labor,	12 00
Thomas Sanderson, labor,	1 80
C. E. Crafts, labor,	3 00

Seth B. Crafts, labor,	6 75
L. S. Crafts, labor,	1 00
C. G. Crafts, labor,	7 25
Charles R. Crafts, labor,	12 70
W. P. Crafts, labor,	1 00
Wm. Barnard, labor,	23 50
Robert Trainor, labor,	129 37
George W. Moore, labor,	114 63
Charles E. Bardwell, labor,	38 55
Bartlett Bros., labor,	32 62
M. J. Powers, labor,	36 87
Dennis Hayes, labor,	12 75
Michael Handershand, labor,	22 05
Wm. Cahill, labor,	3 00
Michael Connery, labor,	2 25
Jas. Powers, labor,	2 00
Jas. Nolan, labor,	6 75
Patrick Dorton, labor,	15 00
John Toomey, labor,	15 75
Jas. Masterson, labor,	1 50
Peter Barnish, labor,	8 00
Sylvester Graves, labor,	3 00
S. S. Graves, labor,	23 62
Ambrose Scott, labor,	10 55
E. A. Warner, labor,	33 00
S. C. Wood, labor,	5 95
C. H. Stockbridge, labor,	7 50
C. P. Bardwell, labor,	6 00
E. J. Waite, labor,	6 00
L. S. Wilcox, labor,	3 00
J. L. Smith, labor,	75
O. E. Morton, labor,	1 15
E. F. Orcutt, boarding masons,	19 00
L. G. Stearns, boarding masons,	20 00
E. A. Warner, boarding masons,	13 42
W. B. Orcutt, stone,	2 00
Elon Sanderson, stone,	5 00

Elon Sanderson, 1610 feet plank,	28 16
John Maxwell, 6993 feet lumber,	117 10
Sylvester Graves, 3278 feet lumber,	37 42
Bentley & Young, 2520 feet Southern pine,	113 12
Wm. A. Brown, 1414 feet logs for plank,	19 80
Luther Sanderson, sawing logs for plank,	4 94
Luther Sanderson, 80 feet timber,	1 20
Charles A. Covil, 90 feet timber,	1 35
Hiram Bardwell, 130 feet timber,	1 95
Mrs. R. Train, 343 feet timber,	3 77
C. K. Waite, railings and damage to plow,	2 00
Est. Mary Dunn 300 bricks,	1 00
C. G. & F. A. Crafts 42 bbls. cement,	73 50
R. Pattes & Co., 712 lbs. bolts and rods,	42 72
S. Allen's Sons, drills, powder, fuse,	14 98
W. B. Orcutt, repairs on chains, drills &c.,	12 20
Michael Kennedy, " "	30
M. Howes, nails, oil,	3 34
E. E. Wood, " pails,	1 70
Washburne & Banks, rope for derrick,	12 00

\$1434 77

About \$25 00 worth of bridge plank on hand.

LIBRARY.

Ginn Heath & Co., books,	\$79 42
M. E. Harwood, "	3 62
Eleazer Crafts, rebinding books,	14 26
E. A. Hall, prnting labels,	1 50
J. D. Seymour, express on books,	1 20

\$100 00

INTEREST.

Grenfield Savings Bank,	\$127 88
Franklin Savings Institution,	120 76
Wm. Barnard,	3 00

\$251 64

TOWN DEBT.

Franklin Savings Institution,	\$1000 00
-------------------------------	-----------

TEMPORARY LOANS.

Greenfield Savings Bank,	\$1000 00
--------------------------	-----------

Paid C. M. Moody county tax,	\$1222 23
------------------------------	-----------

Daniel Gleason, state tax,	880 00
----------------------------	--------

Daniel Gleason, liquor license,	25 00
---------------------------------	-------

Discount on taxes,	155 94
--------------------	--------

RECAPITULATION.

Amount of old orders paid and new orders drawn.

Old orders paid,	\$536 95
------------------	----------

Suport of schools,	1437 29
--------------------	---------

" poor,	1175 10
------------	---------

Highways,	1122 53
-----------	---------

Bridges,	1434 77
----------	---------

Old bills,	87 55
------------	-------

Town debt,	1000 00
------------	---------

Temporary loan,	1000 00
-----------------	---------

Interest,	251 64
-----------	--------

State treasurer, liquor license,	25 00
----------------------------------	-------

Discount on taxes,	155 94
--------------------	--------

Library,	100 00
----------	--------

Military Aid Chapt. 252,	230 50
--------------------------	--------

" " 301,	210 00
------------------------	--------

State tax,	880 00
------------	--------

County Tax,	1222 23
-------------	---------

Assesors,	109 38
-----------	--------

School Committee,	65 00
-------------------	-------

Selectmen,	135 50
------------	--------

Collector and Treasurer,	135 00
--------------------------	--------

Miscellaneous,	758 69
----------------	--------

Librarian,	26 00
------------	-------

\$12,099 07

LIABILITIES.

Greeufield Savings Bank, interest paid to

Dec. 1,	\$2000 00
---------	-----------

Franklin Savings Institution, interest paid to		
Jan. 1,	2160 00	
Due S. W. Allis, as per vote of town with in-		
terest to March 1,	30 74	
		\$4190 74
ASSETS.		
Cash in treasury,	\$542 84	
Uncollected taxes,	20 00	
Due from state military aid, chapter 252,	115 25	
“ “ “ “ 301,	210 00	
“ “ Account Mary Scullez, state		
pauper,	21 00	
Town lands,	350 00	
Due from S. W. Allis, one copy history of		
Whately sold,	3 00	
100 copies history of Whately on hand.	100 00	
		\$1362 09
Balance of indebtedness,		\$2828 65
Decrease from last report,		\$1151 13

BRIDGES.

The cost of building and repairing bridges and culverts has been large, and it must continue to be large for some years to come if you build for durability rather than for the least possible expense without regard to durability. At the commencement of the official year it was decided to replace three log bridges which had become unsafe, with stone culverts, which was all that it was thought could be done with the appropriation, after finishing the Great Swamp bridge and making necessary repairs on other bridges and culverts, but it was found that still another log bridge must be rebuilt with logs or replaced with a stone culvert. It was decided to build with stone, as this bridge was so near the stone-quarry that the material could be swung into position with the derrick without expense of carting. Then it was found that one

of the abutments to the bridge across West brook at E. A. Warner's saw-mill had fallen down and must be rebuilt. This it was hoped would be the last, but such was not to be the case; a heavy shower, and the walls of the culvert on School-house brook came tumbling down, and where had been but a short time previous apparently a safe structure, was now a yawning gulf. Should it be rebuilt for cheapness? or for durability? It was decided the latter, and rebuilt at an expense of \$202.07. The cost was considerably increased on account of being obliged to make a foundation of timber and plank, in a bed of quicksand, before commencing to lay the walls; which was also the case with the two culverts in the east part of the town. The cost of those two culverts was \$394.45, which compared favorably, considering the character of the work, with a wooden structure built in that vicinity the previous year. The cost of finishing Great Swamp bridge has been as follows:

For cementing walls,	\$27 00
Grading and railings for embankment,	92 55
Timber, plank and boards for superstructure,	229 29
Iron and nails	46 06
Labor on	73 74

Total, \$468 64

The work in the quarry, and on the two culverts in the west part of the town, and bridge at Warner's saw mill was so connected that it would be an impossibility to compute the cost of each separately, but the whole cost was \$233.55. The cost of cementing the walls of the bridge at Sumner Smith's was \$17.75.

The cost of repairs on seven other bridges and culverts have been about \$70.00.

The question naturally arises, is it best to build our bridges and culverts so that they will not have to be rebuilt for one or two generations? Our great-grandfathers thought so when they built the stone culvert near the old Isaac Chapman place sixty or more years ago, on which not one cent has since been needed for repairs. So they thought when they built the stone culvert over

"Gutter Hill" brook which has withstood the elements for eighty years, and is apparently good for a century longer. Would that our fathers and elder brothers had thought so too, for then surely we should not now have so many tumble down structures on our hands. It is well known that the "Lane" bridge over "Mill River" is in very bad if not dangerous condition; that one of its walls has partially fallen down and the other undermined. The superstructure might be made to do service some time longer provided it could be kept in position, which is not probable. If the walls are properly rebuilt then there must be a new superstructure, for the old one would not be long enough. The walls, with suitable foundations of timber, cannot be properly rebuilt for much if any less than \$600, and a superstructure of iron of the best builders not less than from \$800 to \$1200. Will you rebuild with iron or wood? The life of a wooden bridge is short.

The Lane bridge was rebuilt in 1867, and again in 1876. The bridge on cross road was rebuilt in 1870 and again in 1877. We would advise consultation with towns that have iron bridges and then the tax payers can vote understandingly upon the question of durability or cheapness. The bridge across West brook, leading to the H. L. James property, which went down in the December freshet of 1878 has not yet been rebuilt. The probabilities are that it will have to be soon. Something must be done to keep the bridge known as West brook bridge in position. Possibly a trestle would support it for a year or two, when it should be rebuilt from the foundation.

The bridge over Mill River at the "cross road" will have to be rebuilt soon. It would not be a surprise to many to find that it had fallen into the stream. With so many of our larger bridges in the condition that they are, and the repairs necessary on the smaller ones, it does not seem possible to get along with no larger appropriations for bridges for three or four years to come, than the town has been accustomed to make in years past.

HIGHWAYS.

Our highways, we think, could be kept in better repair on an appropriation of \$700, under the supervision of a road commissioner or superintendent, consulting with the selectmen, than as

they are now worked under the system of surveyors and by a labor tax, with the usual appropriation of \$1200. It is no hardship for the tax payer to pay the money for repairing highways when he can find plenty of employment to earn that money, as is now the case. In many instances the superintendent could employ the men who find it hard to raise the money for this tax. It *was* a hardship as managed a few years ago, when the highways were worked by money tax under a surveyor for each school district, and many of those surveyors worked every dollar of their part of the appropriation with their own men and teams, to the exclusion of their neighbors, who had just as good teams, and were not able to obtain a day's employment during the year.

PAUPERS.

Our pauper expenses, though large, have been kept within the appropriation. There are probably a smaller number at present receiving support than for a long time past; but those few, six in number, are nearly all requiring constant care. One in the insane hospital; one at the age of 77, almost entirely helpless; another though many years younger, in a similar condition; two others aged respectively 76 and 83 years, require great care; and one aged 69 able to perform some light labor. Thus in their feeble condition their requirements of medical attendance are not small.

TAXATION.

The assessors not choosing to present any report, which we were hoping they would do, leads us to make a few remarks upon the subject of taxation. Why are our taxes so enormously high? exceeded by but very few towns in the state. In the first place our valuation for the year 1875, on which the apportionment of state and county taxes were based, not having been reduced from the fictitious valuation of the war period, was very much out of proportion as compared with valuations of other towns, as will readily be seen by comparing our state and county tax with that of other towns in our county. Only six of the twenty-six towns pay as much as Whately, which is \$2102.23. Then again the

trustees of the Smith Charities, with a fund accumulated to the amount of over \$1,050,000, one-eighth of which was a part of our valuation when the apportionment was made, decline to return to our assessors the usual one-eighth, which would amount to over \$131,000 for taxation, but hide behind the new law for the taxation of mortgages, and return a little over \$27,000 for our assessors to tax, leaving no alternative for the tax payer beside paying the tax on his own property, but to "shell out" and pay \$5 for every \$1,000 of his own property to make up the deficiency, or in other words to swell the accumulations of the institution of the Smith Charities. But it may be said the Smith Charities hold mortgages on large amounts of real estate in this town as well as in other towns, on which they are obliged by the new law to pay the tax, which accounts for their not returning more for our assessors to tax. We reply, "not a bit of it," as you would have already learned if any of your real estate was encumbered by their mortgages; for in their mortgage deeds of late has been inserted a clause by which you agree to pay all taxes on the property; and if of an earlier date you have been politely required to sign an obligation, "for and in consideration of one dollar," which dollar you have never received, to pay all taxes assessed upon the property.

Then again our town has been involved in debt from various causes, such as the December freshet of 1878; the expense of building Sunderland bridge as apportioned by the county commissioners; suits at law, &c., &c., and perhaps we have been trying to pay these old debts too fast, when our current expenses are inevitably so large.

Will any one look after our interests when the new apportionment of state and county taxes is made at the present session of our legislature? Will the "powers that be" understand that our town cannot tax the Smith Charities? and consequently that one eighth of that fund should not be added to our valuation?

OLD BILLS.

Without posting notices to that effect, there was an effort made by the selectmen last year to have presented for payment all bills against the town; and as far as was known to them all such bills

were presented except one of Dr. J. D. Seymour, which they could not obtain on account of his absence, when the books were closed; but it appears that there were other claims to the amount of \$62.55, which have since been paid. This year notices have been posted and it is hoped that there are now no outstanding claims, with the exception of the one of S. W. Allis, which could not be allowed without further action by the town. It is well known that a suit was pending in which the town sought to recover of him the amount of the sales of a crop of tobacco grown on the town land, which he had sold and failed to account to the town for the amount of sales. Previous to the commencement of suit the town chose agents to settle and collect the tobacco account. On approaching Mr. Allis, the agents were informed by him that he had a claim against the town and that instead of his owing the town, the town owed him, and that he would furnish them with a statement of the account. After waiting some months and not being able to obtain the statement promised, the agents of the town, asked for further instructions at a meeting called for that purpose. On the day of the meeting Mr Allis handed to the agents of the town his long promised statement, which was presented to the town. The statement, after being somewhat condensed, amounts to the following:

TOWN OF WHATELY TO S. W. ALLIS.

Dr.

For services in suit Whately vs. Crafts, 5 per cent of judgement rendered by Superior Court in August, 1877, \$4625,	\$231 25
--	----------

Cr.

For 4187 lbs tobacco at 7 3-4c,	\$324 50
1437 " 3c,	43 10
	\$367 60

Dr.

To sorting and casing, at 1 1-2c,	\$98 25
-----------------------------------	---------

Cash paid taxes March 3, 1880,	26	98
“ “ “ 8, “	40	12

\$165 35

\$202 25

Balance due,

\$29 00

This appeared to be something of a surprise to the voters of the town, who supposed he had been paid for his services as one of the selectmen at that time, and instructions were given the agents of the town to collect the tobacco account. A suit was now commenced, but soon after, at the next annual meeting, the subject was considered, and the town not wishing to do him any injustice voted to pay him the amount of the bill as reported by the agents of the town. The suit was now stopped and the selectmen were ready to give him an order on the treasurer for the balance, \$29.00, but were told by him that it would be a little different from that, but declined to state the amount, which has lately been ascertained to be \$59.09, made up of items of interest added to the original balance. As the selectmen had authority to pay him only the original balance, which he refuses to accept, the claim is unsettled with a threat that expense will be made. He has since reduced his claim to \$35.66, but it still remains unpaid as the selectmen feel that they have no discretion in the matter, but must pay no more than the \$29.00 with interest on the same since date of the last annual meeting, amounting to \$1.74.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Among the articles in the warrant at the last annual meeting on which votes were taken leaving the subject matter with the selectmen was one to cause to be surveyed and monuments set to mark the line of highways; and one to continue to surveys commenced last year; also one in regard to repairing and painting the town hall building. It was decided to paint and repair the town hall, which has been done at an expense of \$230, including repairs and furnishings for the different rooms. We have felt that we could do no more with the appropriation, and consequently have done

nothing under the votes of the first and second articles above mentioned except to get out a few bound stones at the quarry. We do not hesitate to say that the surveying should be continued and bound stones set at important points. The action of the selectmen last year in purchasing a derrick for the use of the town at a cost of \$180, after paying \$30 for the use of the same on the walls of the bridge at Sumner Smith's, has been very severely criticised by some, while commended by others whose judgement in such matters was deserving of as much respect. The derrick has been used to advantage, and could not have been hired for the purpose less than \$75 ; and besides paying for a new rope at an expense of \$12, it has been rented for enough to pay 15 per cent interest on the cost of the investment. The town paid for use of derrick during 14 years previous to purchase, \$220, besides the expense of going after and returning same to Northampton, Conway and other places, 14 trips, which could not have been less than \$25.

The town having no building in which to store their road machine and other tools, it is suggested that it would not be a bad investment to purchase the building in the rear of the town hall for that purpose. It could probably be bought for about \$75, and at trifling expense can be fitted up for the purpose. The road machine purchased less than ten years ago at an expense of more than \$150, has been exposed to the weather quite too much, for the want of a building to put it in. During the last two winters it has been stored in the building above mentioned, as storage for it could not be obtained elsewhere. The extra expense incurred to keep the road machine in repair on account of exposure would go far toward paying for the building.

Perhaps it would not be out of place to state to those who may have been led to think otherwise, that the town books are open at all times for the inspection of any and all of its citizens.

Estimated necessary appropriations for 1883.

Poor,	1200 00
Highways,	700 00
Bridges,	2000 00
Town officers,	350 00

Old bills,	50 00
Discount on taxes,	200 00
Interest,	200 00
Contingent,	1000 00
Schools,	1200 00
	\$5900 00

High school,
Library,
State tax,
County tax,

All of which is respectfully submitted,

C. G. CRAFTS,	} Selectmen and Overseers of Poor of Whately.
E. A. WARNER,	
WM. BARNARD,	

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The number of books added to the library in the past year is 80. The number of persons who make use of the library has increased to 150.

The library has been transferred to the room which was originally intended for it, the small north room of the town hall; and the agricultural library has been placed there also. Besides these improvements, a good stove, a table and a lamp have been added. A suitable chair is much needed; the vote of last year to provide one has not yet been carried out. Curtains would add much to the convenience of the room.

MRS. C. R. CHAFFEE.

School Committee's Report.

The school year is nearly at a close and your committee render the following report :

MONEY RAISED.

Appropriated by the town for common schools,	\$1200 00
For high school,	150 00
Received from state school fund,	220 35

\$1570 35

MONEY EXPENDED.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Paid Mr. C. O. Buffington, teaching 13 weeks at \$6 75 per week, including board,	\$87 75
Mrs Chaffee, for board of teacher 13 weeks at \$3 25 per week,	42 25
Building fires and care of room,	5 00
E. A. Warner, for wood,	13 50
H. K. White, " " "	4 50

\$153 00

Whole number of scholars 26. Over 15 years of age 8.

NORTH CENTER SCHOOL.

Spring term, paid Miss Kate A. Chaffee, teaching 12 weeks at 5 25 per week, including board,	\$63 00
Whole numbr of scholars, 16.	
Number over 15 years, 1.	
Average attendance, 13.	
Fall term, paid Miss Kate A. Chaffee, teaching 10 weeks at 5 50 per week, including board,	\$55 00
Building fires,	2 50

\$57 50

Whole number of scholars, 18.

Number over 15 years, 1.

Average attendance, 13.

Winter term, paid Miss Kate A. Chaffee, teaching 13
weeks at 5 75 per week, including board,

\$74 75

Building fires,

2 00

Coal, and drawing same,

10 51

J. N. Beers, for wood,

3 00

\$90 26

Whole number of scholars, 11.

SOUTH CENTER SCHOOL.

Spring term, paid Miss M. E. Harwood, teaching 11
weeks at 5 75 per week, including board,

\$63 25

Building fires,

2 35

\$65 60

Whole number of scholars, 42.

Number under 5 years, 2.

Number over 15 years, 1.

Average attendance, 37.

Fall term, paid Miss Cora Delano, teaching 10 weeks
at 6 00 per week, including board,

\$60 00

Whole number of scholars, 40.

Number over 15 years, 2.

Average attendance, 32.

Winter term, paid Miss Emma Brown, teaching 13
weeks at 6 00 per week, including board,

\$78 00

Building fires,

2 00

S. W. Allis, 3 cords of wood,

15 75

\$95 75

Whole number of scholars, 38.

Number over 15 years, 1.

NORTH WEST.

Spring term, paid Mis Hattie A. Warner, teaching
9 weeks at 2 75,

\$24 75

H. Longley, for boarding teacher,	22 50
“ for building fires and sawing wood,	2 00

\$49 25

Whole number of scholars, 14.

Number over 15 years, 2.

Average attendance, 11.

Fall term, paid Miss Emma Brown, teaching 10 weeks at	35 00
---	-------

H. Longley, for boarding teacher,	20 00
“ building fires,	2 00

57 00

Whole number of scholars, 15.

Number over 15 years, 2.

Average attendance, 12.

Winter term, paid Miss Cora Delano, teaching 13 weeks at \$3 50,	\$45 50
--	---------

E. E. Sanderson, for boarding teacher,	29 25
“ buuilding fires and care of room,	2 00

Edward Sanderson, 2 cords wood,	10 90
---------------------------------	-------

E. A. Warner,	4 00
---------------	------

\$91 65

Whole number of scholars, 17.

SOUTH WEST.

Spring term, paid Miss Mattie Fairfield, teaching 9 weeks at 5 25 per week, including board,	\$47 25
--	---------

Building fires,	50
-----------------	----

\$47 75

Whole number of scholars, 17.

Average attendance, 12.

Fall term, paid Miss Mattie Fairfield, teaching 10 weeks at 5 50 per week, including board,	\$55 00
---	---------

J. E. Wait, for wood,	15 00
-----------------------	-------

	\$70 00
--	---------

Whole number of scholars, 19.	
-------------------------------	--

Average attendance, 13.	
-------------------------	--

Winter term, paid Miss Mattie Fairfield, teaching 13 weeks at 6 00 per week, including board,	\$78 00
---	---------

Building fires,	2 00
-----------------	------

Elliot Warner, 2 cords wood,	5 00
------------------------------	------

	\$85 00
--	---------

Number of scholars, 20.	
-------------------------	--

Average attendance, 15.	
-------------------------	--

NORTH EAST.

Spring term, Miss Fannie Bennett, teaching 12 weeks at 5 00 per weeks,	\$60 00
--	---------

Building fires, etc.,	3 25
-----------------------	------

	\$63 25
--	---------

Whole number of scholars, 27.	
-------------------------------	--

Number under 5 years of age, 1.	
---------------------------------	--

Average attendance, 20.	
-------------------------	--

Fall term, paid Miss Fannie Bennett, teaching 10 weeks at 3 50 per week,	\$35 00
--	---------

H. L. Pease, for boarding teacher,	20 00
------------------------------------	-------

	\$55 00
--	---------

Whole number of scholars, 23.	
-------------------------------	--

Number under 5 years, 1.	
--------------------------	--

Average attendance, 18.	
-------------------------	--

Winter term, paid Miss Fannie Bennett, teaching 12 weeks at 6 00 per week,	\$72 00
--	---------

S. W. Allis, for wood,	10 00
------------------------	-------

“ building fires and care of room,	2 00
------------------------------------	------

	\$84 00
--	---------

Whole number of scholars, 16.	
-------------------------------	--

SOUTH EAST.

Spring term, paid Miss Nettie M. Hastings, teaching 12 weeks, at	\$66 00
Fires,	1 50
	\$67 50

Number of scholars, 53.

Average attendance, 37.

Fall term, paid Miss Hattie A. Warner, teaching 6 weeks at 3 00 per week,	\$18 00
Charles Pease, boarding teacher,	18 00
	\$36 00

Whole number of scholars, 33.

Average attendance, 23.

Winter term, paid Miss Hattie A. Warner, teaching 12 weeks at 6 50,	\$78 00
S. W. Allis, for wood,	20 78
Building fires,	2 00
	\$100 78

Whole number of scholars, 43.

Number of children in town between 5 and 15 years 209.

Number of children that have attended the public schools:

High school,	26
Common schools, spring term,	140
“ “ Fall term,	125
“ “ Winter term,	145
Children schooled by the town, out of town,	9

RECAPITULATION.

Appropriated by the town for common schools,	\$1200 00
“ “ high school,	150 00
Received from State school fund,	220 31
	\$1570 31

AMOUNT EXPENDED.

High school,	\$153 00
North Center school,	201 76
South " "	221 35
North west "	197 90
South " "	202 75
North east "	202 25
South " "	204 28
Amount paid Deerfield,	35 00
" Hatfield,	10 00
	\$1428 29
Balance in treasury not expended,	\$142 02

REMARKS.

In our last year's report we earnestly recommended an appropriation for a High school. The \$150 voted for this purpose has given us a school of thirteen weeks duration, that can emphatically be termed a success. Is not the need of the continuance of this school every winter more strongly emphasized by this success? It has relieved in a measure the over crowding of some of our common schools, and above all, given these older scholars a chance to improve in advanced studies. If the improvement has not been so marked in every scholar as expected, the responsibility must rest in a very great degree with that scholar. No teacher, however, faithful and competent, can crowd knowledge into the brains of an indifferent, inattentive scholar. As a whole, we heartily commend the plan of teaching pursued, and trust what was an experiment this year will prove a permanent investment.

There have been few changes in the teachers of our schools except from one district to another, to accommodate the teachers themselves, who were thus often helped by being nearer home. All were tried teachers, and their competency for the places assigned them well tested before the changes were made. It is hardly necessary to individualize, for their continuance attests to their efficiency.

The Northwest school in the spring term and the Southeast in the fall term were necessarily closed on account of sickness.

We would return our thanks to parents and guardians for their interest manifested; but would again earnestly recommend that they co-operate with the teachers. The help and impetus given to teachers by the known sympathy of parents and friends of scholars can hardly be over estimated.

We respectfully subscribe ourselves,

M. E. HARWOOD,

J. D. SEYMOUR, M. D.

1 11 106
14 6 11
0 8
8 1 1
5 5 1
0 0 1
0 5 1
0 0 8
0 0 9
0 5 9